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TO:	FROM:
Mr. Mohamed Charioui	Robert Hunter
COMPANY:	DATE:
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office	9/10/2005
RECIPIENT'S FAX NUMBER:	TOTAL NO. OF PAGES INCLUDING COVER:
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SENDER'S PHONE NUMBER:	SENDER'S FAX NUMBER:
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RE:	YOUR REFERENCE NUMBER:
Response to Final Rejection of application 10/683,928	

URGENT FOR REVIEW PLEASE COMMENT PLEASE REPLY PLEASE RECYCLE

Dear Mohamed:

Thank you and Marc Hoff for taking the time to meet with me via the conference call. The following response reflects the comments made in the previous draft plus the comments made during our conference call. The revised claims are exactly as stated in the draft response sent August 26th.

Thank you again for the time to review this application.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Hunter".

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Robert R. HUNTER Docket No.: TREND-00102
Serial No.: 10/683,928 Group Art Unit: 2857
Filed: October 10, 2003 Examiner: Charioui, Mohamed
For: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR READING AND CONTROLLING UTILITY CONSUMPTION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450
Response to Office Action

RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a)

IN THE CLAIMS:

Changes are being made to the Independent Claim 1 to incorporate elements of Dependent Claims 14 and 15. Changes are being made to Independent Claim 8 to incorporate elements of Dependent Claims 38 and 39. Existing claims 14, 15, 38 and 39 are hereby cancelled. Two new dependent claims, numbers 40 and 41 have been added.

REMARKS

CLAIMS:

Claims 1-39 are pending in the application. Examiner rejected all claims 1-39 in a Final Action on the subject patent application mailed on July 26, 2005.

Claims 1, 3-7, 8-13, 16-18, 20, 22, 24-26, 28, 30 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Halpern (U.S. RE. 35,793) in view of Lestician (U.S. 5,880,677). Claims 2, 14, 31 and 38 are rejected as being unpatentable over Halpern in view of Lestician and Young (U.S. 5,721,659). Claims 15 and 39 are rejected